

SLE

calls a weaver's shuttle or reed a *slay*. To *slay* is to part a twist into single fibres.]

I on a fountain light,
Whose brim with pinks was platted,
The banks with daffodillies dight
With grass like *seave* was matted. *Drayton's Cynthia.*
SLEAZY. *adj.* [often written *seazy*.] Weak; wanting substance. This seems to be of the same race with *seave*, or from to *slay*.

SLED. *n. f.* [*sled*, Danish; *sledde*, Dutch.] A carriage drawn without wheels.

The *sled*, the tumbrel, hurdles, and the sail,
These all must be prepar'd. *Dryden.*

SLEDDED. *adj.* [from *sled*.] Mounted on a sled.
So frown'd he once when in an angry parle,
He smote the *sledged* Polack on the ice. *Shakespeare.*

SLEDDER. *n. f.* [*sleeg*, Saxon; *sleggia*, Islandick.]
1. A large heavy hammer.

They him spying, both with greedy force,
At once upon him ran, and him beset,
With strokes of mortal steel, without remorse,
And on his shield like iron *sledges* bet. *Fairy Queen.*

The painful smith, with force of fervent heat,
The hardest iron soon doth mollify,
That with his heavy *sledge* he can it beat,
And fashion to what he it list apply. *Spenser.*

The upland *sledge* is used by workmen, when the work is not of the largest, yet requires help to batter and draw it out: they use it with both their hands before them, and seldom lift their hammer higher than their head. *Mozon.*

Aristotle ascribes it unto the swiftness of that motion; but it would follow that the quick stroke of a light hammer should be of greater efficacy, than any foster and more gentle striking of a great *sledge*. *Wilkins's Mathematical Magick.*

2. A carriage without wheels, or with very low wheels; properly a *sled*. See **SLED**.

In Lancashire, they use a sort of *sledge* made with thick wheels, to bring their marl out, drawn with one horse. *Mort.*

SLEEK. *n. f.* [*sleech*, Dutch.] Smooth; nitid; glossy.

Let me have men about me that are fat,
Sleek-headed men, and such as sleep a-nights. *Shakespeare.*

How eagerly ye follow my disgrace,
As if it fed ye; and how *sleek* and wanton
Y' appear in ev'ry thing may bring my ruin. *Shakespeare.*

Yet are the men more loose than they,
More kemb'd, and bath'd, and rub'd, and trim'd,
More *sleek'd*, more soft, and slacker limb'd. *Ben. Jonson.*

What time the groves were clad in green,
The fields all drest in flowers,
And that the *sleek*-hair'd nymphs were seen,
To seek them summer bowers. *Drayton.*

The purest pasteboard, with a *sleek* stone rub smooth, and as even as you can. *Peacham.*

As in gaze admiring, oft he bow'd
His turret crest, and *sleek* enamel'd neck,
Fawning. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*

Those rugged names to our like mouths grow *sleek*,
That would have made Quintilian stare and gasp. *Milton.*

Thy head and hair are *sleek*,
And then thou kemb'st the tuzzes on thy cheek. *Dryden.*

So *sleek* her skin, so faultless was her make,
Ev'n Juno did unwilling pleasure take
To see so fair a rival. *Dryden.*

To **SLEEK.** *v. a.* [from the adjective.]

1. To comb smooth and even.
By dead Parthenope's dear tomb,
And fair Ligea's golden comb,
Wherewith the sits on diamond rocks,
Sleeking her soft alluring locks. *Milton.*

2. To render soft, smooth, or glossy.
Gentle my lords, *sleek* o'er your rugged looks;
Be bright and jovial 'mong your guests to night. *Shakespeare.*

With crumbs of bread and milk, and lies a-nights
In her neat gloves. *Ben. Jonson's Catiline.*

A sheet of well *sleeked* marble paper did not cast any of its distinct colours upon the wall. *Boyle.*

The persuasive rhetoric
That *sleek'd* his tongue, and won so much on Eve,
So little here, nay lost. *Milton.*

A cruise of fragrance, form'd of burnish'd gold,
Odour divine! whose soft refreshing streams
Sleek the smooth skin, and scent the snowy limbs. *Pope.*

SLEEKLY. *adv.* [from *sleek*.] Smoothly; glossily.
Let their heads be *sleekly* comb'd, and their blue coats brush'd. *Shakespeare's Taming of the Shrew.*

To **SLEEP.** *v. n.* [*slepan*, Gothick; *sleapan*, Saxon; *slapen*, Dutch.]

1. To take rest, by suspension of the mental powers.
I've watch'd and travell'd hard:
Some time I shall *sleep* out; the rest I'll whistle. *Shakespeare.*

Where's the *Pede*?—go you, and where you find a maid,
That ere she *sleeps*, hath thrice her prayers said,
Rein up the organs of her fantasy; *Shakespeare's Merry Wives of Windsor.*

Sleep the as found as careless infancy; *Shakespeare's Merry Wives of Windsor.*

But those that *sleep*, and think not on their sins,
Pinch them, arms, legs, backs, shoulders, sides, and shins. *Shakespeare's Merry Wives of Windsor.*

If the man be poor, thou shalt not *sleep* with his pledge. *Shakespeare's Merry Wives of Windsor.*

Sleep on now, and take your rest; behold the hour is at hand. *Shakespeare's Merry Wives of Windsor.*

Peace, good reader! do not weep;
Peace! the lovers are asleep:
They, sweet turtles! folded lie,
In the last knot that love could tie.
Let them *sleep*, let them *sleep* on,
Till this stormy night be gone,
And the eternal morrow dawn,
Then the curtains will be drawn,
And they waken with that light,
Whose day shall never *sleep* in night. *Shakespeare's Merry Wives of Windsor.*

Those who at any time *sleep* without dreaming, can never be convinced that their thoughts are for four hours busy without their knowing it.

2. To rest; to be motionless.
Steel, if thou turn thine edge, or cut not out the burly-bon'd clown in chimes of beef ere thou *sleep* in thy sheath, I beseech Jove on my knees thou mayst be turned into hob-nails. *Shakespeare's Henry VI.*

How sweet the moonlight *sleeps* upon this bank!
Here will we sit, and let the sounds of music
Creep in our ears. *Shakespeare's Merchant of Venice.*

The giddy ship, betwixt the winds and tides,
For'd back and forwards, in a circle rides,
Stunn'd with the different blows; then shoots again,
Till counterbuff'd the stops, and *sleeps* again. *Dryden.*

3. To live thoughtlessly.
We *sleep* over our happiness, and want to be roused into a quick thankful sense of it. *Atterbury.*

4. To be dead; death being a state from which man will come time awake.
If we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which *sleep* in Jesus will God bring with him. *1 Thess.*

A person is said to be dead to us, because we cannot raise from the grave; though he only *sleeps* unto God, who can raise from the chamber of death. *Lyttle's Paragon.*

5. To be inattentive; not vigilant.
Heav'n will one day open
The king's eyes, that so long have *sleep* upon
This bold, bad man. *Shakespeare's Henry VIII.*

6. To be unnoticed, or unattended.
You ever
Have with'd the *sleeping* of this business, never
Desir'd it to be stir'd. *Shakespeare's Henry VIII.*

SLEEP. *n. f.* [from the verb.] Repose; rest; suspension of the mental powers; slumber.
Methought I heard a voice cry *sleep* no more!
Macbeth doth murder *sleep*; the innocent *sleep*;
Sleep that knits up the ravell'd sleeve of care;
The birth of each day's life, fore labour's bath,
Balm of hurt minds, great nature's second course,
Chief nourisher in life's feast. *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*

Cold callest the spirits to succour; and therefore they cannot so well close and go together in the head, which is ever requisite to *sleep*. And for the same cause, pain and noise hinder *sleep*; and darkness furthereth *sleep*. *Bacon.*

Beasts that *sleep* in winter, as wild bears, during their *sleep* wax very fat, though they eat nothing. *Bacon.*

His fasten'd hands the rudder keep,
And fix'd on heav'n, his eyes repel invading *sleep*. *Dryden.*

Hermes o'er his head in air appear'd,
His hat adorn'd with wings dispos'd the god,
And in his hand the *sleep* compelling rod. *Dryden.*

Infants spend the greatest part of their time in *sleep*, and are seldom awake but when hunger calls for the teat, or some pain forces the mind to perceive it. *Locke.*

SLEEPER. *n. f.* [from *sleep*.]
1. One who sleeps; one who is not awake.
Sound music; come my queen, take hand with me,
And rock the ground whereon these *sleepers* be. *Shakespeare.*

What's the business,
That such an hideous trumpet calls to parley
The *sleepers* of the house? *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*

In some countries, a plant which *shuteth* in the night, openeth in the morning, and openeth wide at noon; the inhabitants say is a plant that *sleepeth*. There be *sleepers* now then; for almost all flowers do the like. *Bacon.*

Night is indeed the province of his reigns;
Yet all his dark exploits no more contain
Than a spy taken, and a *sleep*er slain. *Dryden.*

He must be no great eater; drinker, nor *sleep*er, that will discipline his senses, and exert his mind: every worthy undertaking requires both. *South's Sermons.*

2. A

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1. A lazy inactive drone.
2. That which lies dormant, or without effect.

3. Let penal laws, if they have been *sleepers* of long, or if grown unfit for the present time, be by wise judges confined in the execution. *Bacon.*

4. A fish. *Ainsworth.*
SLEEPILY. *adv.* [from *sleepy*.]
1. Drowsily; with desire to sleep.

2. Dully; lazily.
I rather chafe to endure the wounds of those darts, which envy casteth at novelty, than to go on safely and *sleepily* in the easy ways of ancient mistakings. *Ruleigh.*

3. Stupidly.
He would make us believe that Luther in these actions pretended to authority, forgetting what he had *sleepily* owned before. *Atterbury.*

SLEEPINESS. *n. f.* [from *sleepy*.] Drowsiness; disposition to sleep; inability to keep awake.

Watchfulness precedes too great *sleepiness*, and is the most ill-boding symptom of a fever. *Arbutnot.*

SLEEPLESS. *adj.* [from *sleep*.] Wanting sleep.
The field

To labour calls us, now with sweat impos'd,
Though after *sleepless* night. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*

While penive poets painful vigils keep,
Sleepless themselves to give their readers sleep. *Pope.*

SLEEPY. *adj.* [from *sleep*.]
1. Drowsy; disposed to sleep.

2. Not awake.
Why did you bring these daggers from the place?
They must lie there. Go, carry them and smear
The *sleepy* grooms with blood. *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*

And rising haily, took a short adieu. *Dryden.*

3. Somniferous; somniferous; causing sleep.
We will give you *sleepy* drinks, that your senses unintelligent of our insufficiency, may, though they cannot praise us, as little accuse us. *Shakespeare's Winter's Tale.*

Let such bethink them, if the *sleepy* drench
Of that forgetful lake benumb not still. *Milton.*

I *sleeped* about eight hours, and no wonder; for the physicians had mingled a *sleepy* potion in the wine. *Gulstrier.*

SLEET. *n. f.* [perhaps from the Danish, *slet*.] A kind of smooth small hail or snow, not falling in flakes, but single particles.

Now van to van the foremost squadrons meet,
The midmost battles hasting up behind,
Who view, far off, the storm of falling *sleet*,
And hear their thunder rattling in the wind. *Dryden.*

Perpetual *sleet* and driving snow
Obscure the skies, and hang on herds below.
Huge oxen stand inclos'd in wintry walls
Of snow congeal'd. *Dryden.*

Rains would have been poured down, as the vapours became cooler; next *sleet*, then snow, and ice, and frost. *Obeyne.*

To **SLEET.** *v. n.* [from the noun.] To snow in small particles, intermixed with rain.

SLEEVY. *adj.* [from the noun.] Bringing *sleet*.
SLEEVE. *n. f.* [*slyp*, Saxon.]

1. The part of a garment that covers the arms.
Once my well-waiting eyes esp'd my treasure,
With *sleeves* turn'd up, loose hair, and breast enlarg'd,
Her father's corn, moving her fair limbs, measure. *Sidney.*

The deep smock *sleeve*, which the Irish women use, they say, was old Spanish; and yet that should seem rather to be an old English fashion: for in armory, the fashion of the Manche, which is given in arms, being nothing else but a *sleeve*, is fashioned much like to that *sleeve*. And knights, in ancient times, used to wear their mistress's or love's *sleeve* upon their arms; fir Launcelot wore the *sleeve* of the fair maid of Asteloth in a tourney. *Spenser's Ireland.*

Your hose should be ungarter'd, your *sleeve* unbutton'd, your shoe untied, demonstrating a careless desolation. *Shakespeare.*

You would think a smock a she-angel, he so chants to the *sleeve*-band, and the work about the square on't. *Shakespeare.*

He was clothed in cloth, with wide *sleeves* and a cape. *Bacon.*

In velvet white as snow the troop was gown'd,
Their hoods and *sleeves* the same. *Dryden.*

2. *Sleeve*, in some provinces, signifies a knot or skein of silk, which is by some very probably supposed to be its meaning in the following passage. [See **SLEEVE**.]

Methought I heard a voice cry, *sleep* no more!
Macbeth doth murder *sleep*; the innocent *sleep*;
Sleep that knits up the ravell'd *sleeve* of care,
The birth of each day's life. *Shakespeare.*

3. *Sleeve*, Dutch, signifies a cover; any thing spread over; which seems to be the sense of *sleeve* in the proverbial phrase, A brace of sharpers laugh at the whole roguery in their *sleeves*. *L'Estrange.*

Men know themselves utterly void of those qualities which the impudent sycophant ascribes to them, and in his *sleeve* laughs at them for believing. *South's Sermons.*

John laughed heartily in his *sleeve* at the pride of the esquire, *Arbutnot's Hist. of John Bull.*

4. To hang on a *sleeve*; to make dependent.
It is not for a man which doth know, or should know what orders, and what peaceable government requireth, to ask why we should hang our judgment upon the church's *sleeve*, and why in matters of orders more than in matters of doctrine. *Hooker.*

5. [*Lalligo*, Latin.] A fish. *Ainsworth.*
SLEEVED. *adj.* [from *sleeve*.] Having *sleeves*.
SLEEVELESS. *adj.* [from *sleeve*.]

1. Wanting *sleeves*; having no *sleeves*.
His cloaths were strange, though coarse, and black, tho' bare;
Sleeveless his jerkin was, and it had been
Velvet, but 'twas now, so much ground was seen,
Become tuffastaty. *Donne.*

They put on long *sleeveless* coats of home-spun cotton. *Sandys.*

Behold you idle by palmers, pilgrims trod,
Grave mummings! *sleeveless* come, and shirtless others. *Pope.*

2. Wanting reasonableness; wanting propriety; wanting solidity. [This sense, of which the word has been long possessed, I know not well how it obtained; *Skinner* thinks it properly *liveless*, or *lifeless*: to this I cannot heartily agree, though I know not what better to suggest. Can it come from *sleeve*, a knot, or *skain*, and so signify *unconnected*, hanging ill together? or from *sleeve*, a cover; and therefore means *plainly* *alford*; foolish without palliation?]

This *sleeveless* tale of transubstantiation was brought into the world by that other fabler of the multipreference. *Hall.*

My landlady quarrelled with him for sending every one of her children on a *sleeveless* errand, as she calls it. *Spektator.*

SLEIGHT. *n. f.* [*slegd*, cunning, Islandick.] Artful trick; cunning artifice; dexterous practice; as sleight of hand; the tricks of a juggler. This is often written, but less properly, *sight*.

He that exhorted to beware of an enemy's policy, doth not give counsel to be impolite; but rather to be all prudent foresight, lest our simplicity be over-reached by cunning *sleights*. *Hooker.*

Fair Una to the red cross knight
Betrothed is with joy;
Though false Duessa it to bar,
Her false *sleights* do employ. *Fairy Queen.*

Upon the corner of the moon,
There hangs a vap'rous drop, profound;
I'll catch it ere it come to ground;
And that distill'd by magick *sleights*,
Shall raise such artificial sprights,
As, by the strength of their illusion
Shall draw him on to his confusion. *Shakespeare's Macbeth.*

Out stept the ample size
Of mighty Ajax, huge in strength; to him, Laertes' son,
That crafty one as huge in *sleight*. *Chapman.*

She could not so convey
The massy substance of that idol great,
What *sleight* had she the warden to betray?
What strength to heave the goddess from her seat? *Fairf.*

In the wily snake
Whatever *sleights*, none would suspicious mark,
As from his wit, and native subtilty
Proceeding. *Milton.*

Doubtless the pleasure is as great
Of being cheated, as to cheat;
As lookers on feel most delight,
That least perceive the juggler's *sleight*. *Hudibras.*

Good humour is but a *sleight* of hand, or a faculty making truths look like appearances, or appearances like truths. *L'Estrange.*

When we hear death related, we are all willing to favour the *sleight*, when the poet does not too grossly impose upon us. *Dryden.*

While innocent he scorns ignoble *sleight*,
His honest friends preserve him by a *sleight*. *Swift.*

SLEINE. *n. f.* [This word is apparently misprinted for *seine*.] Is a net of about forty fathoms in length, with which they encompass a part of the sea, and draw the same on land by two ropes fastned at its ends, together with such fish as lighteth within his precinct. *Carew.*

SLENDER. *adj.* [*slinder*, Dutch.]
1. Thin; small in circumference compared with the length; not thick.
So thick the roses bushing round
About her glow'd; half-rooping to support
Each flow'r of slender stalk. *Milton.*

2. Small in the watu; having a fine shape.
What slender youth bedew'd with liquid odours,
Courts thee on roses in some pleasant cave.
Beauteous Helen shines among the rest,
Tall, slender, straight, with all the graces blest. *Dryden.*

3. Not